

Subject: PA medal to Godfrey Bowman--
Naval Action on Lake Erie, 1813

Magoun, W.N.
[Boston, MA]

1924

W. N. MAGOUN

88 BROAD STREET
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

January 16, 1924.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 155th Street,
New York City.

Dear Sir:

My family is inpossession of a medal presented by the Government of Pennsylvania to Godfrey Bowman in testimony of his patriotism in the Naval Action on Lake Erie September 10, 1813.

I asked Mr. Wheeler of the Boston Public Library and a member of your society whether he could give me any information concerning this medal and, while he found it listed in a catalogue, he was unable to add any further information but suggested that if you were familiar with the medal you would perhaps be willing to tell me what you might know about it.

I am not particularly interested in any possible intrinsic value of the medal but especially desire to find out to whom it was distributed; whether to all who took part in Perry's Victory or only to some specified limited number thereof or only to those who were residents of Pennsylvania.

I will certainly appreciate any information you may give me in the premises.

Yours very truly,

W. N. Magoun

January 23rd, 1924

W. N. Magoun, Esq. *
88 Broad Street
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your favour of January 16th with regard to the medal presented by the Government of Pennsylvania to Godfrey Bowman, we regret that we are unable to furnish you with any definite information, and would suggest your writing to the Pennsylvania Historical Society at Philadelphia.

I have been given to understand that similar medals given by the Federal Government, both for Lake Erie and all the other naval battles, were distributed as follows - gold to the Commander or Commanders, and silver to all of the other officers who took part in the engagement. There is a collector of naval medals in Boston - Mr. Malcolm Storer, 302 Beacon Street, who may possibly be able to supply you with further information.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E